

Border Eagle

Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas ... Together we 'XL'



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the inside Scoop...

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Air Power

Quote of the Week

"The natural function of the wing is to soar upwards and carry that which is heavy up to the place where dwells the race of gods. More than any other thing that pertains to the body it partakes of the nature of the divine."

—Plato

Base access moves west Construction dangers prompt change

Compiled from staff reports

Primary access into and out of Laughlin will switch from the Main Gate to the West Gate beginning at 5:30 a.m. April 13.

At that time, the West Gate will remain open 24 hours every day. The Main Gate will open from 5:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 7 to 9 a.m. and 7 to 9 p.m. on weekends and holidays.

"We are changing the traffic flow because of one reason – traffic safety," said Col. Jack Egginton, 47th Flying Training Wing commander. "The accident risk is growing daily due to the Highway 90 construction outside the Main Gate. Combine the roadway excavation, detours and our railroad crossing with darkness or poor weather and this situation is downright dangerous at best!" he explained.

The ideal solution would provide continuous access at both gates. However, 47th Security Forces Squadron manning precludes this option. SFS now provides a second gate access 12 hours a day during the workweek. This



Photo by Airman 1st Class Brad Pettit

Airman 1st Class Amy Bishop, 47th Security Forces Squadron installation entry controller, checks the military identification card of 2nd Lt. Shaun Hunt, 47th Contracting Squadron contracting specialist, at the Main Gate Tuesday. Primary access into and out of Laughlin will change to the West Gate beginning April 13.

will continue even though the squadron is authorized enough people to provide additional gate security only four hours a day during this peak period.

Traffic considerations included the fact that Val Verde Regional Medical Center will begin providing emergency ambulance response for Laughlin the

same day (see related story on page 6). Without the change, trains outside the Main Gate could delay responding paramedics several minutes – a critical factor in life-threatening situations.

Even with the changes in gate

See 'Access,' page 5

Boeing fighter completes first flight

EDWARDS AIR FORCE BASE, Calif. – The Boeing Joint Strike Fighter X-32B demonstrator made its first flight March 29, and is now in a four-month test program to validate the aircraft's approach to short-takeoff-and-vertical-landing ability.

During a 50-minute trek from Palmdale, Boeing test pilot Dennis O'Donoghue put the X-32B through a series of initial airworthiness tests, including flying qualities and sub-systems checkout.

"It flew exactly like the X-32A flies, which is a real tribute to the commonality of the (overall X-32 series)

See 'Test,' page 5



Photo by Randy O'Brezar

Boeing test pilot Dennis O'Donoghue lands the X-32B Joint Strike Fighter at Edwards Air Force Base, Calif., where the jet will undergo early rounds of testing.

Quality of life plays key role

By Lt. Gen. Donald Peterson

Deputy chief of staff, Personnel

WASHINGTON – Quality-of-life issues underpin virtually every aspect of the Air Force way of life. To enhance readiness, the Air Force must take care of its Total Force – its people, the heart of its capability.

The Air Force is continuing its efforts to improve quality of life across the force and, for the first time in five years, has expanded its core priorities addressing this issue. We have added manpower and workplace environment to our previous list of core priorities: fair and competitive compensation and benefits, balanced tempo, quality health care, safe and affordable housing, enhanced com-

munity and family programs and educational opportunities.

These core priorities are the foundation for building strategies, seeking legislation and sustaining a solid approach to meet the needs of Air Force people. Additionally, quality of life is being addressed in the service's Quadrennial Review and Department of Defense Strategy Review.

Traveling throughout the Pacific Theatre and Europe recently, I continually heard requests for increased manpower to improve the balance between the service's resources and its taskings. We are listening. The Air Force is addressing this manpower shortfall with an initiative to increase end strength by 10,000 airmen above the fiscal 2000 level to better meet operational requirements.

This action, coupled with the ongoing Total Force Career Field Review, reaffirms the need to address manpower as a core quality-of-life priority.

Another priority, workplace environment, has been neglected; requirements exceed available resources. Constrained budgets have increased real property maintenance backlogs, and spare parts and equipment shortfalls have resulted in reduced combat capabilities and readiness, creating a larger bill for the future. This was a continuing theme in the major commands' revalidation of quality-of-life priorities.

Their inputs carried significant weight in

See 'Quality,' page 3

Is it economics or is it patriotism?

By Maj. Gerald Goodfellow

28th Operations Group

ELLSWORTH AIR FORCE BASE, S.D. – I recently came across an interesting article entitled "Patriotism: Minuscule Motive for Joining the Military."

The article cited a survey of people between the ages of 16 and 21. It found that only 12 percent of males and 9 percent of females would join the armed forces out of a sense of duty for their country. The article also said, "Economics (funds for college, training, job experience and money) would be the motive for 70 percent of the respondents."

If this is true, something changes after people join the military, because I believe most servicemembers view their service as patriotic both during and after their tour of duty. However, I know many go through periods when they begin to make state-

ments like "I can't believe I'm getting deployed over Christmas again" or "How come the promotion system is so screwed up?" or "Why am I in the Air Force?"

For most servicemembers, the answer to at least the last question can be given in one word – patriotism.

I know economics isn't the reason people stay in the military.

During my career, I've had several occasions in which it has become clear to me why I serve. One example was during my first operational assignment. It was a bitterly cold winter day and I was in the middle of a nuclear operational readiness exercise. If you stepped outside, it was just a matter of seconds before your whole body turned to ice.

My crew spent most of the night trying to perform a preflight check on a jet that was riddled with maintenance problems. We had been working on the jet for about four hours trying to complete what was normally a 45-minute preflight.

The cockpit was freezing, but after the first hour, our crew chief found us a flightline heater. He ran the heater hose into the cockpit, and it wasn't long before we started to get hot.

We went from complaining about the cold to complaining about how hot the heaters made the plane. What was the Air Force thinking when it made us do this exercise in the middle of winter? Our recruiters didn't tell us about these kinds of injustices.

"During my career, I've had several occasions in which it has become clear to me why I serve."

-Maj. Gerald Goodfellow
Ellsworth AFB, S.D.

Finally, when the jet was fixed, we were ordered to report to the alert facility. We bundled into our winter attire and made a break for the facility. By the time we arrived, we were once again freezing.

We quickly headed for the chow line and joined a table of eight other guys to eat a piping hot meal. Instantly, the conversation turned to how bitterly cold it was and what in the world was the Air Force thinking, when all of a sudden we looked out the window and noticed a lone security policeman guarding the jets. The poor guy was out in the freezing cold, marching a patrol around the jets.

At that instant, 12 crewmembers realized the security policeman was a real patriot. We all gained a better understanding of why we serve.

At that moment, I again understood why we serve and why thousands have served: patriotism.

(Courtesy of Air Force Print News)

Col. Jack Egginton

Commander

1st Lt. Dawnita Parkinson

Public affairs chief

Airman 1st Class Brad Pettit

Editor

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News for the Border Eagle should be submitted to the 47th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs Office, Bldg. 338, Laughlin AFB, TX, 298-5262. **Copy deadline is close of business each Thursday the week prior to publication.**

Advertising should be submitted to the Del Rio News-Herald, 2205 Bedell, Del Rio, TX, 774-4611. Advertising should be submitted by 4 p.m. each Friday.

Submissions can be e-mailed to: bradley.pettit@laughlin.af.mil or reginal.woodruff@laughlin.af.mil

"Excellence – not our goal, but our standard."

– 47 FTW motto

'Quality,' from page 2

adding manpower and workplace environment to the core quality-of-life priorities. Additionally, the 1999 Chief of Staff Quality of Life Survey, a July 2000 survey update, and targeted commander and first sergeant inputs were used to help determine the way ahead.

Over the past 10 years, Air Force people have increasingly identified compensation and benefits as one of the top reasons for leaving the Air Force. Six of nine MAJCOMs addressed pay as one of the primary concerns of their people. Likewise, when asked to identify the No. 1 quality-of-life issue for their people, commanders and first sergeants overwhelmingly cited compensation.

During the past few months, we've seen evidence that recent changes in compensation – the fiscal 2000, 2001 and forecast 2002 pay raises, and targeted pay increases for E-5s to E-7s, bonuses, and reductions in housing out-of-pocket expenses – are positively influencing career decisions. However, we must remain committed to increasing compensation and benefits to close the gap between military and civilian pay.

To help address another core priority, balanced tempo, the Air Force implemented structural and cultural changes via the Expeditionary Aerospace Force concept to enhance responsive force packaging, as well as to provide the Total Force more stability and predictability in deployment and home station scheduling.

Also, like tempo, quality health care remains a primary concern with

airmen and their families. Significant gains were made in 2000, to include expanding Tricare to include 1.4 million Medicare-eligible beneficiaries and retirees, and their families.

Safe, affordable and adequate housing has been an Air Force quality-of-life priority for several years, and major initiatives in both dormitory and family housing are being recognized.

In July, the Air Force chief of staff reaffirmed his commitment to airmen housing and noted the Dormitory Master Plan is a great success story. At the same time, via a random survey update, two-thirds of Air Force officers and more than 50 percent of enlisted members noted satisfaction with on-base housing.

The Air Force also recognizes the benefits its members and their families derive from strong family and community investments, such as youth and child care programs, family support centers, chapels, libraries, fitness centers and commissaries. These programs are force multipliers as members face dual responsibilities to our nation and to their families.

Recent enhancements to www.AFCROSSROADS.com, a worldwide tool for information on installations, financial management, dependent schools and a host of other topics, continue to support the Air Force family and community quality-of-life priority.

Additionally, Air Force Crossroads hosts the first-of-its-kind spouse job bank to assist with increasing spouse employment concerns. An online Spouse Forum provides a cyber community of informa-



Photo by Jesse Diaz

So the story goes...

Lt. Col. Jacqueline C. Harry, 47th Mission Support Squadron, reads to a group of children during Story Time at the Book Mark Library March 30. Story Time takes place every Friday at 10 a.m. at the base library. Volunteers are always needed. For more information on volunteering to read for Story Time, call Sue Blankemeyer at 298-5119.

tion resources and greatly needed support network on a variety of issues of interest to spouses.

The service seeks a balanced approach to quality-of-life priorities. All eight core priorities are essential to our Total Force. Educational and distance learning opportunities can be the No. 1 priority for some members, while child care, manpower or workplace environments may rank No. 1 with others.

But timing, daily stressors and generational attitudes also influence

which issue is No. 1 at any given time.

Every dollar we invest towards quality of life impacts positively upon our readiness and helps us combat recruiting and retention issues.

Our Total Force – military members, civilians, retirees and family members – continually faces unique circumstances of military life, and the Air Force is firmly committed to ensuring their quality of life needs are addressed.

(Courtesy of Air Force Print News)

Actionline

Call 298-5351

personal reply. It's also very useful in case more information is needed in order to pursue your inquiry. If you give your name, we will make every attempt to ensure confidentiality when appropriate.

If your question relates to the general interest of the people of Laughlin, the question and answer may also be printed in the Border Eagle. Before you call the Actionline, please try to work the problem out through the normal chain of command or directly with the base agency involved.

Thanks for your cooperation, and I look forward to reading some quality ideas and suggestions.

This column is one way to work through problems that haven't been solved through normal channels. By leaving your name and phone number, you are assured of a timely per-



Col. Jack Egginton
47 FTW commander

AAFES	298-3176
Accounting and Finance	298-5204
Civil Engineer	298-5252
Civilian Personnel	298-5299
Commissary	298-5815
Dormitory manager	298-5213
Hospital	298-6311
Housing	298-5904
Inspector General	298-5638
Legal	298-5172
Military Personnel	298-5073
Public Affairs	298-5988
Security Forces	298-5900
Services	298-5810
Equal Opportunity	298-5400
FWA hotline	298-4170

Newslines

OSC social

The Officers' Spouses' Club Social is scheduled to be held at 7 p.m. April 17 at Club XL. Silver Crystal Bingo and prizes will be part of the evening's activities.

For more information, call Angela O'Connell at 298-7081 by April 13.

Band of the West

The United States Air Force Band of the West from Lackland AFB sponsors Fiesta in Blue 2001 April 24 and 25 at 7:30 p.m. in the Laurie Auditorium at Trinity University.

Fiesta in Blue 2001 is an Air Force salute to the local community during the holiday season. The concert is a free event, but is ticket controlled. People can get tickets by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: USAF Band of the West, Fiesta in Blue 2001, 1680 Barnes Ave., Lackland AFB TX 78236.

People should indicate the number of tickets needed (limit four) and which evening they want to attend.

For more information, call DSN# 473-3934.

College registration

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University will be holding its early registration April

16-19 for its summer term.

For more information, call 298-5285.

Retirement seminar

The Civilian Personnel Flight will be conducting a retirement seminar for all civil service employees at the Operations Training Complex auditorium April 24.

Two sessions will be offered. The morning session, lasting from 8-11 a.m., will be on the Civil Service Retirement System. The afternoon session, from 1-4 p.m., will be on the Federal Employees Retirement System.

Supervisors are encouraged to make every effort to allow their employees to attend. Employees wishing to attend must get permission from their supervisors.

For more information, call Carlos Trevino at 298-5375.

SGLI increases

SGLI insurance has increased to \$250,000. Those who have elected less than full coverage or no coverage at all must visit MPF Customer Service between before April 30 to reaccomplish the new SGLI form.

The monthly deduction for SGLI will increase to \$20.

For more information, contact Tech Sgt. Sabina M. Wiener at 298-5277.



Please recycle.

‘Access,’ from page 1

hours, Team XL members are reminded to use caution at both access points. The Spur 317 access to Laughlin from Highway 277 turns off a two-lane road with a posted speed limit of 70 m.p.h. (daylight). This means drivers should signal well in advance when turning, and recognize that oncoming traffic is moving at high speeds.

The Highway 90 construction will continue to change the flow of traffic around the Main Gate until it is completed. This means sharp turns, narrow traffic lanes and steep road drop-offs may be encountered at any time.

‘Test,’ from page 1

design,” O’Donoghue said. “(This) flight means we’ll be as successful in demonstrating STOVL flying qualities and performance with the X-32B as we were with the X-32A in demonstrating conventional takeoff and landing and carrier-approach performance.”

The X-32A completed flight testing Feb. 3 after 66 flights and 50.4 flight hours with six different Boeing and government pilots. The X-32A demonstrated conventional takeoff and landing for the Air Force and carrier-approach flying qualities for the Navy.

The X-32B will complete a number of flights at Edwards AFB before moving to Naval Air Station Patuxent River, Md., for more STOVL testing. The overall flight-test program will include approximately 55 flights totaling about 40 hours.

“Our STOVL design uses matured technology to improve an operational design rather than invent a new system and wait to mature it in the future,” said Frank Stakus, Boeing vice president and JSF general manager.

To perform STOVL flight, the Boeing system closes the rear exhaust nozzle and redirects engine thrust downward through two lift nozzles.

For conventional flight, the lift nozzles are closed and thrust flows rearward through the two-dimensional thrust-vectoring cruise nozzle – the same as in the X-32A – to propel the aircraft forward and to supersonic speeds.

(Courtesy Air Force Print News)

Friday, the Border Eagle. Wednesday, this newspaper:



www.af.mil/newspaper

Base to use Del Rio ambulance services

Compiled from staff reports

Val Verde Regional Medical Center will provide emergency ambulance service for Laughlin residents beginning April 13.

No change will occur in obtaining emergency medical response. Base members will continue to dial 911 for all emergencies. The Laughlin Fire

Department will provide the initial response, and their emergency medical technicians will stabilize the victims.

Once the 911 operator acknowledges the call, VVRMC will dispatch an ambulance with paramedics to the location. Upon arrival, the paramedics will assume care for the victims and transport them to VVRMC for treatment.

Paramedics are qualified to provide a wide range of advanced lifesaving techniques, including administration of medicine.

This will improve timely treatment for Team XL members since Laughlin EMTs provide only the most basic emergency lifesaving treatment.

Emergency response time to Laughlin has been tested repeatedly at

nine minutes or less from VVRMC, noted base and Val Verde officials. This is faster than typical response times in many large cities throughout the U.S.

The tested response time includes access to the base through the West Gate, which will become the 24-hour access point on April 13 (see related story on page 1).



Photo by Kevin Robertson

200 and counting

Raptor 4002 met another F-22 program achievement March 28, when it became the first F-22 to fly 200 test missions. There are four flight test F-22s at Edwards AFB, Calif., with the remaining four engineering and manufacturing development Raptors scheduled to join the fleet by the end of 2001.

Selective bonus list released

WASHINGTON – The Air Force has released its latest selective re-enlistment bonus list and has decided to keep bonuses at their current levels, with the exception of those in three career fields.

After careful consideration, the decision to keep bonuses at their current levels was made, Air Force personnel officials said.

For the past few months, officials have worked to optimize the SRB program within available funding.

While there are no increases in bonuses for this latest release, the Air Force has increased the SRB budget from \$25 million in fiscal 1997 to \$165 million in fiscal 2001,

said Lt. Col. Francine Blackmon, chief of Air Force skills management. Additionally, the number of Air Force skills eligible for an SRB has tripled since fiscal 1997.

Zone A bonuses in the radio communications systems, 3C1X1, career field was reduced from 2.0 to 1.0.

The Zone A bonus for the communications cable systems, 2E6X2, and the Zone C bonus for the visual information, 3U0X1, career fields have been discontinued. The changes for the three Air Force Speciality Codes take effect May 1.

Personnel officials are scheduled to conduct the next semiannual SRB review some

time in October.

During this comprehensive evaluation, all enlisted specialties are reviewed.

The criteria for determining which enlisted skills receive an SRB include current and projected manning levels, re-enlistment trends, career field force structure changes, and inputs from individual career field managers.

For more information or to determine eligibility for an SRB, people can contact their local military personnel flight re-enlistment offices.

A complete list of the SRB program is located online on the AFPC Homepage.

(Courtesy of Air Force Personnel Center)

Second body found at crash site

ROYAL AIR FORCE LAKENHEATH, England – Mountain rescue teams located a second body March 30 at the crash site of two U.S. Air Force F-15C Eagle aircraft reported missing March 26.

Formal identification by medical officials will be conducted following recovery of the body.

Search and rescue teams located and identified the second missing U.S. Air Force F-15C aircraft March 28 about 400 yards from the wreckage of the first aircraft on the summit of Ben Macdui in the Cairngorm Mountains of Scotland.

The discovery was made by Royal Air Force and civilian mountain rescue teams. The rescue teams experienced some of the worst

weather conditions seen in the last 17 years including temperatures of minus 24 degrees Fahrenheit, avalanche risk and zero visibility.


Lt. Col. Kenneth Hyvonen, 40, from the 48th Operations Support Squadron, and Capt. Kirk Jones, from the 493rd Fighter Squadron here were each piloting an F-15C, when both disappeared off radar March 26 over northern Scotland.

Hyvonen's remains, and the wreckage of the first F-15C were located March 27.

The F-15C aircraft is a single-seat, all-weather, tactical fighter designed to gain and maintain air superiority in aerial combat.

A board of U.S. Air Force officers will investigate the cause of the accident.

(Courtesy of Air Force Print News)

 **Do the world a favor, recycle this newspaper.**

Mission complete – SUPT Class 01-07 graduates today



Capt. Glenn Rineheart
KC-135 Grand Forks AFB, N.D.



1st Lt. Brian Lafreda
C-5 Dover, Del. (AFRES)



2nd Lt. Paul Adams
C-17 Charleston AFB, S.C.



2nd Lt. Jeremy Bell
C-141 Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio
(AFRES)



2nd Lt. Donald Charlton
F-16 Sioux Falls, S.D. (ANG)



2nd Lt. Bradford Coolidge
E-3 Tinker AFB, Okla.



2nd Lt. Christopher Cokeley
F-16 Fresno, Calif. (ANG)



2nd Lt. William Dorsey
T-1 Laughlin AFB



2nd Lt. George Downs
F-15 Tyndall AFB, Fla.



2nd Lt. David Evans
F-16 Luke AFB, Ariz.



2nd Lt. Craig Fisher
T-37 Laughlin AFB



2nd Lt. Justin Gray
KC-10 McGuire AFB, N.J.



2nd Lt. Dennis Hargis
T-37 Laughlin AFB



2nd Lt. Nichole Hartman
C-130 Dyess AFB



2nd Lt. Dallas Hills
KC-10 McGuire AFB, N.J.



2nd Lt. Jason Jensen
A-10 Davis-Moahan AFB, Ariz.



2nd Lt. David Kierein
T-37 Laughlin AFB



2nd Lt. Jeremy Lopes
KC-135 Phoenix, Ariz. (ANG)



2nd Lt. Jason Oatley
C-21 Yokota AB, Japan



2nd Lt. Matthew Paroda
C-5 Dover AFB, Del.



2nd Lt. Benjamin Powers
KC-135 Fairchild AFB, Wa.



2nd Lt. Scott Seigfried
F-16 Luke AFB, Ariz.



2nd Lt. Heidi Triggs
KC-135 McConnell AFB, Kan.



2nd Lt. Martin Weeks III
B-52 Barksdale AFB, La.



2nd Lt. Jason Yandell
F-16 Fort Smith, Ark. (ANG)

Conserve water

Replace washers in leaky faucets.



Where are they now?

Name: Capt. David A. Gauch
Class/date of graduation from Laughlin: Class 96-01, October 1995
Aircraft you now fly and base you are stationed at: C-5, Dover AFB, Del.
Mission of your current aircraft? Global airlift
What do you like most about your current aircraft? There is no better way to cross the Atlantic
What do you dislike most about your current aircraft? As a former first assignment instructor pilot, I miss going cross-country with my buds.
What was the most important thing you learned at Laughlin besides learning to fly? Take care of yourself!
What is your most memorable experience from Laughlin? Flying a four ship formation over Falcon Stadium during an Air Force game when I was a FAIP.
What advice would you give SUPT students at Laughlin? Help your classmates out!



Chapel Schedule

<u>Catholic</u>	<u>Protestant</u>
Saturday -Vigil Mass, 5 p.m.	Sunday -General worship, 11 a.m.
Sunday -Mass, 5 p.m. -Mass, 9:30 a.m. -Confession by appointment -Little Rock Scripture Study, 11 a.m. in Chapel Fellowship Hall	-Sunday school, 9:30 a.m. at the Religious Education Building
Thursday -Choir, 6 p.m. -CCD, 11 a.m., Religious Education Building	Monday Student Wives' Fellowship, 7-9 p.m. Call 298-7365.
Jewish Max Stool, call 775-4519	Wednesday - Women's Bible Study, 12:30-2:15 p.m. at Chapel
Muslim Dr. Mostafa Salama, call 768-9200.	-Choir, 7 p.m. at Chapel
	Chapel Youth Group
	Sunday -5 p.m. Chapel Fellowship Hall

For more information on Chapel events and services, call 298-5111.

Question of the week

What do you want to be when you grow up?



"Superman."

Josh Sullivan, 4
Family member



"A singer."

Jacie Davison, 5
Family member



"A hairdresser."

Breanna Wilridge, 5
Family member



"A teacher."

McKenzie Hackmaster, 5
Family member

The *XLer*

Hometown: Centerville, Utah

Family: Husband, Jason

Time at Laughlin: 3 months

Name one way to improve life at

Laughlin: Let your creative juices flow and keep a positive attitude.

Hobbies: Exercising, volleyball, singing, scrap-booking, camping – Just about anything outdoors, except skydiving.

Greatest accomplishment: Living in Spain for 18 months and learning to speak Spanish

Bad habit: Pouting

Favorite beverage: Country Time Lemonade

Favorite food: Pizza-pepperoni and mushroom

Motto: Always tell the truth so you never have to remember what you said.

If you could spend one hour with any person, who would it be and why? My husband. I find him fascinating, but since we've moved here he has been very busy. So, if I could choose anyone, it would be him.



Heather Oswald
Laughlin volunteer

*Safety
belts
save
lives –
so
buckle
up!*